

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention relates to a A method and to a device for detecting, determining and documenting damage to ~~lacquered~~ painted surfaces, especially parts of the bodywork of vehicles, ~~wherein the test surface of the vehicle is sensed~~
5 ~~with~~ utilizes light from at least one heavily focusing light source directed to a test surface in a grid-type or raster-type manner ~~and to produce~~ a surface image ~~is produced~~ on a screen with the light reflected on ~~the~~ the test surface of the vehicle, ~~said the~~ image being detected by a capturing, evaluating and signal processing device. ~~The and the~~ surface damage therein ~~being~~ is then determined according to
10 a specific evaluation algorithm and outputted for objective documentation of the damage. ~~This is~~ Results are achieved by ~~means of~~ coordinated, controlled displacement and/or pivoting between the light source and screen and by means of a rotational and/or displacement and or pivoting movement of the vehicle, which is controlled in accordance with ~~said the~~ displacement and/or pivoting,
15 around or along the longitudinal and/or vertical axis thereof inside a load-bearing structure, wherein the respective surface area to be sensed is brought towards the light source in the reflection position and the screen and the capturing device are brought towards the reflected light in an imaging position and the movements of

MARKED SPECIFICATION

F-8848

Ser. No. 10/551,160

the light source, screen, capturing device and vehicle are controlled by ~~means of~~ a processor unit.